## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 SNM-05 DEAE-00 /042 W

-----104232 100955Z /15

R 100609Z JAN 78 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5980

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PER, AFSP

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR NEW FSO NARCOTICS POSITION

FOR S/NM, NEA, AND M/DG

REF: 77 KABUL 8122

1. THIS IS TO REPEAT OUR REQUEST FOR A NEW FSO NARCOTICS POSITION. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED A RESPONSE TO OUR REFTEL OF NOVEMBER 21, 1977.

2. OUR URGENT NEED FOR A NEW POSITION HAS BEEN FORCE-FULLY BROUGHT HOME TO US THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS. OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER, WHO IS ALSO OUR POLITICAL COUNSELOR (IN A TWO-MAN POLITICAL SECTION), HAS BEEN ILL FOR ABOUT TEN DAYS, AND THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN SEVERELY HAMPERED IN ITS ABILITY TO HANDLE NOT ONLY ITS NARCOTICS WORK BUT ITS POLITICAL FUNCTION. SEVERAL OF OUR IMPORTANT END-OF-YEAR POLITICAL REPORTS HAVE HAD TO BE POSTPONED BECAUSE WE ARE SO UNDERMANNED. IN ADDITION, PRIOR TO THE ILLNESS MENTIONED, THE POL SECTION WAS SO SWAMPED WITH WORK THAT THE POL COUNSELOR AND THE OTHER FSO IN THE SECTION LOST, RESPECTIVELY, 72 AND 68 HOURS ANNUAL LEAVE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS IS NOT IDEAL PERSONNEL POLICY. PERSONNEL HERE NEED R&R AND REGULAR LEAVES, AND ILLNESS IS A COMMON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PHENOMENON OF LIFE IN AN UNHEALTHFUL POST LIKE KABUL, SO WE ARE ALWAYS VULNERABLE TO THIS KIND OF SITUATION. THE ECONOMIC SECTION IS NO BETTER STAFFED THAN THE POLITICAL.

3. AS WE STATED IN OUR 8122, OUR NARCOTICS RESPONSIBILITIES
ARE GROWING EVERY MONTH. WE HAVE FOUND THAT MUCH CLOSER (AND
TIME CONSUMING) COORDINATION AMONG UNFDAC, UN/DND, AND EMBASSY

IS NEEDED. ALSO, COMPOUNDING OUR NARCOTICS WORKLOAD HERE HAS BEEN THE ABSENCE ON HOME LEAVE SINCEEARLY NOVEMBER 1977 OF OUR DEA LOCAL AGENT. VARIOUS DEA OFFICER SUBSTITUTES HAVE COME IN FROM ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI, BUT GAPS HAVE NEVERTHELESS OCCURRED REQUIRING FILLING IN BY OUR ALREADY OVERBURDENED POLITICAL SECTION.

4. WE DO HOPE OUR REQUEST FOR A NARCOTICS FSO POSITION CAN BE GRANTED, AND THAT THIS CAN HAPPEN SOONER THAN LATER. ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: SNAR, APER, AFSP

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